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QUANTUM LEAP

THE LEAP HOME

NOVEMBER 23, 1969

Written

by

Donald P. Bellisario

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#66401

QUANTUM LEAP

THE LEAP HOME

NOVEMBER 25, 1969

CAST

SAM BECKETT/SAM, AT SIXTEEN  
THE OBSERVER

THELMA BECKETT  
JOHN BECKETT  
TOM BECKETT  
KATEY BECKETT  
LISA PARSONS  
MARY LOU  
COACH  
NO NOSE PRUITT  
SIBBY  
HERKY  
DR. BERGER  
CHEERLEADERS  
SAM, AT SIXTEEN

EXTRAS:

ELK RIDGE COUGARS  
BENTLEYVILLE TIGERS  
FANS  
GIRLFRIENDS

SETS

INTERIORS:

FARMHOUSE  
KITCHEN/DINING ROOM  
DAIRY BARN  
HIGH SCHOOL GYM  
DOCTOR'S OFFICE

EXTERIORS:

ELK RIDGE, INDIANA  
CORNFIELD/DIRT ROAD  
WHITE VICTORIAN  
FARMSTEAD  
PORCH

VEHICLES:

'61 FORD FAIRLANE

ANIMALS:

AGGIE  
HARRIET  
THE REST OF THE HERD

QUANTUM LEAPTHE LEAP HOMENOVEMBER 25, 1969TEASER

1 QUANTUM LEAP IN 1

2 EXT. INDIANA CORNFIELD - DUSK 2

Sam materializes in the center of a rustling autumn cornfield and takes a deep breath of crisp fall air.

SAM'S VOICE OVER

October.

(sniffs again)

No, November.

3 CLOSER ON SAM 3

He glances around, his eyes taking in the dried ears of corn still on the stalks.

SAM'S VOICE OVER

Seed corn. And where there's seed corn....

He squats and picks an ear from low on the stalk and examines it. Half the kernels have been pecked away.

SAM'S VOICE OVER

...there's pheasants.

With a grin, Sam stands and begins to stalk through the cornfield, an imaginary shotgun in his hands. He doesn't go very far before....

4 A RINGED-NECK PHEASANT 4

explodes from the stalks in front of him.

5 FEATURE SAM 5

He throws the imaginary gun to his shoulder and fires.

6 ON THE PHEASANT

6

sailing away above the tips of the rustling corn.

7 BACK ON SAM

7

He lowers the imaginary gun and watches it disappear.

LISA'S VOICE

Did you get him?

Sam turns, startled.

8 SAM'S POV - LISA PARSONS

8

Sixteen, blonde and as pretty as they grow them in Indiana. She's wearing a cheerleader's sweater and skirt and sitting on the hood of a '61 Ford Fairlane, parked on the side of the dirt road. Sprawled on and around the car with her are three girls, also in cheerleader's uniforms.

9 BACK ON SAM

9

He's stunned. His mouth literally hangs open, which causes the girls to giggle.

SAM

Lisa!

10 ANGLE ON ALL

10

Lisa is suddenly shy and doesn't speak until one of her girlfriends, Mary Lou, nudges her.

LISA

Sibby said you always shortcut through the corn after practice.

SAM

Sibby....

Lisa senses the shocked look on Sam's face is more than just surprise and isn't sure she should go on. Mary Lou doesn't have any such sensitivity and with a shake of her head, slides off the hood of the car and takes a step toward Sam.

CONTINUED

10 CONTINUED

10

MARY LOU  
(to the point)  
Lisa wants to know if you're taking  
anyone to the sock hop after the  
game.

Sam stares at Mary Lou for a beat, then looks to Lisa and  
then to his right where the road disappears over a knoll.

SAM  
Oh, boy.

He turns and breaks into a run toward the knoll.

11 ON LISA AND THE GIRLS

11

Lisa looks disappointed. Mary Lou looks disgusted.

MARY LOU  
I knew he was shy, but that's  
ridiculous.

12 ON SAM

12

He races over the top of the knoll and stops. His eyes are  
wide. His heart is pounding. He's gasping for air as if  
he's been plunged into an icy pond. He chokes back the  
shock and breaks into a staggering trot. We pan with him  
to reveal....

13 A WHITE VICTORIAN FARMSTEAD

13

standing in a grove of towering oaks and fronted by a small  
stream. The milk cows are following a well-worn path from  
the pasture to the barn, the bell of the lead cow tinkling  
in the evening air. Sam's stumbling walk becomes a run  
down the road to the farmhouse below.

14 MOVING WITH SAM

14

His feet are flying now. The black high-top sneakers  
barely touch the dirt road, leaving little puffing clouds  
of dust with each fleeting step.

## 15 ANGLE FROM THE HOUSE

15

Sam ignores the gate and uses one hand to spring over the white picket fence. He leaps the rose bushes, takes the porch steps in a single stride and stops before the front door.

## 16 SAM'S POV - THE FRONT DOOR

16

Its glass window has been turned into mirror by the setting sun and reflected in it is a 16-year old Sam Beckett.

## 17 BACK ON SAM

17

His face is beaded with sweat and he's breathing hard as much from the shock as the run.

## 18 BACK ON SAM'S STUNNED REFLECTION

18

Suddenly, the door opens revealing a woman who startles at the sight of Sam.

MOM

Sam!

(recovering)

You scared ten years out of me.

The corners of her green eyes are crinkled from years of squinting at the Indiana sun and her graying hair, which had been tightly pinned up at five that morning, has loosened into wisps that frame her thin face. In the right clothes and makeup she could be a very attractive forty-five year old woman. In the simple dress and apron, she makes one terrific mother.

SAM

(stunned)

Mom....

MAIN TITLE BEGINS

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN

19 INT. INDIANA FARMHOUSE - SUNSET

19

Sam stares in wide-eyed wonder as his mother brushes past him to the side of the porch and hollers toward the barn.

MOM

Supper's ready!

(beat, then  
louder)

John...supper!

(turning to Sam)

Your father's getting deaf from all those years on a tractor. I'd tell him to stuff his ears with cotton, but does he listen to me? No. He could give stubborn lessons to a mule.

(seeing Sam's  
stunned look)

What is it?

With his eyes brimming with tears, Sam rushes to his mother and hugs her tightly to him. After a moment....

MOM

What's wrong, Sam?

SAM

Nothing.

(beat)

I'm just happy to see you, Mom.

He continues to hug her for a moment longer; then, hiding his tears, he swings over the porch railing to the ground.

SAM

I'll get Dad.

As he disappears around the side of the house, we move in on Mom's puzzled expression.

CUT TO

20 INT. DAIRY BARN - SUNSET

20

A 40's era Philco radio is loudly playing "The Theme From a Summer Place" as Sam's dad attaches an automatic milker to one of the fawn and black Jersey cows in the stalls. John Beckett is in his mid-fifties with the weathered skin and calloused hands of a midwest farmer. The resemblance between he and Sam is incredible.

21 ON SAM

21

He is standing in the doorway, watching his dad work with tears of joy openly flowing down his cheeks. Dad catches a glimpse of him out of the corner of his eye.

DAD

There you are.

(beat)

Wipe Aggie down and hook her up.

SAM

(wiping his eyes)

Yes, sir.

22 ANOTHER ANGLE

22

Even though it's been twenty years, Sam grabs the antiseptic and cleans Aggie's udder as if the last time he did it was this morning.

SAM

(warmly)

Hello, Aggie.

Aggie moos.

DAD

You stayed after practice to shoot baskets, didn't you?

SAM

Ah...yeah, I guess I did.

DAD

I admire your dedication, but you have chores.

SAM

Yes, sir. It won't happen again.

CONTINUED



22 CONTINUED

22

DAD

(with a twinkle)

The hell it won't.

(sighs)

Sam, you're only sixteen. You can't expect to play as well as your brother did his senior year.

SAM

(remembering)

Tom was All-State.

DAD

Tom was eighteen. You're still growin'.

SAM

(to himself)

I don't know about that.

23 FEATURE DAD

23

He sees that the cow he's milking is running dry and unhooks her.

DAD

Harriet, you used to do better, but I guess we're all getting old.

SAM

You're not old, Dad. You look just the way I remembered you!

DAD

What, since you left for school this morning?

SAM

(can't hold back)

I love you, Dad.

Sam puts his arms around his father and hugs him tight. His dad is surprised and a bit perplexed, but enjoys it.

KATEY'S VOICE

Mamma says if you don't come to supper right now, she's feeding it to the hogs.

24 ANOTHER ANGLE

24

Standing in the doorway is Katey, Sam's twelve-year old freckled-faced sister.

SAM

Katey!

He rushes to her and sweeps her into his arms. Katey's alternately startled, delighted and then suspicious. As Sam lets her down....

KATEY

You can't have it!

SAM

What?

KATEY

Daddy, he wants Tom's bedroom!

SAM

(remembering)

Tom told me I could have it.

KATEY

But Mamma said I should have it 'cause I'm a girl and girls need more room than boys.

DAD

Why don't you let Sam use it till he goes to college next fall.

KATEY

(protest)

Daddy!

SAM

It's okay, Dad. She can have Tom's room.

KATEY

I can?

SAM

(hugs her)

Of course you can. You're my little sister. You can have anything you want.

On Katey and Dad's look of surprise, we....

CUT TO

25 INT. FARMHOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

25

straight out of a Norman Rockwell painting, with a refrigerator and stove from the thirties and a table heaping with food. Dad, Mom and Katey sit around one end of the table staring at the unseen other end.

26 THEIR POV - SAM

26

hungrily wolfing down the fried chicken, mashed potatoes and home-baked rolls. He takes a big slug of milk and realizes his family is staring at him.

SAM

(wiping the milk  
from his mouth)

It's...all so good.

27 ANGLE ON EVERYONE

27

Mom passes him another helping of potatoes.

MOM

I'm glad you like it.

Sam spoons out some potatoes and forces himself to eat with a bit more reserve. After a moment, the others dig in.

DAD

There was talk at the feed mill that Coach Daley might try a combination zone this year.

SAM

(recalling)

Yeah...he did and we almost beat Bentleyville.

They stop eating and stare at him.

SAM

(covering)

Last year. We almost beat them last year playing man-to-man.

DAD

The key's gonna be stoppin' No Nose Pruitt.

(to Mom)

He scored twenty points against us last season.

CONTINUED

27 CONTINUED

27

SAM  
(painful memory)  
He was impossible to stop.

28 ANOTHER ANGLE - SFX

28

The Observer walks through the wall behind Sam and stops at his shoulder.

OBSERVER  
How tall is he?

SAM  
(automatic)  
Six three.

OBSERVER  
That's a runt in the NBA.

Sam glances at Al, who smiles and puffs on his cigar.

DAD  
Six three?

SAM  
(turns to Dad)  
No Nose. He's about six three.

MON  
Doesn't the poor boy have a nose?

DAD  
Broke it in a reaping accident. Doc  
had to remove the cartilage so his  
nose....  
(demonstrating)  
...kinda smushes around.

KATEY  
I heard Mary Lou on the phone and  
she said....

MON  
Katherine, how many times have I  
told you not to eavesdrop on the  
party line.

CONTINUED

28 CONTINUED

11

KATEY

(defensive, to  
Mom)

I was calling her sister Elaine and  
Mary Lou was already on the  
phone....

(to Sam)

...and she said No Nose was going to  
kill you next Friday.

MOM

Oh, Katherine, why would this No  
Nose want to do that?

KATEY

'Cause he's sweet on Lisa Parson and  
Lisa asked Sam to take her to the  
dance after the game.

(slowly)

And do you know what Sam did?

SAM

(warning)

Katey....

KATEY

(giggles)

He ran away.

OBSERVER

Figures.

29 ANOTHER ANGLE

29

Sam picks up his plate, utensils and glass and pushes back  
from the table.

SAM

I've gotta do my chores.

MOM

I made a peach cobbler for dessert.

SAM

(in awe)

Peach cobbler....

OBSERVER

Sounds yummy.

SAM

It is.

CONTINUED

29 CONTINUED

29

KATEY

What is?

SAM

It is...time to do my chores.

DAD

(teasing)

Might not be any cobbler left when  
you get done.

Sam looks to his Mom.

MOM

I'll save you a piece.

Sam grins, puts his dishes in the sink and hurries out the  
screened door.

30 ON THE TABLE

30

His family watches him go, then turns back to the table.

MOM

I got a funny feeling, John.

DAD

(lighting a  
cigarette)Last time you said that, we had a  
flood big enough to float the ark.

KATEY

Nineteen fifty-seven, the year I was  
born.

DAD

I figured you were God's way of  
making it up to us.

Katey beams.

31 MOVING IN ON MOM

31

as she stares out the kitchen window at Sam, who's trotting  
toward the barn. On her perplexed look, we....

CUT TO

32 INT. DAIRY BARN - NIGHT

32

Sam is busy cleaning and storing the milking equipment as a bemused Al watches from his position next to Aggie.

SAM

I'm me, Al! I leaped into me!

OBSERVER

I know. The mind of a mature man in the persona of a sixteen year-old at the height of his sexual powers. The possibilities are mind-boggling....

(looks to Sam)

...or would be if you didn't run away.

SAM

What would you do if you suddenly came face-to-face with a girl you had a crush on twenty-five years ago?

(quickly)

Don't answer that.

33 ANGLE ON A MIRROR

33

Sam steps up before it and his youthful face stares back.

I'm

I'm sixteen, Al. I'm sixteen and I'm home and....

(eyes moistening)

...my dad's alive!

OBSERVER'S VOICE

(sincere)

I know, kid. I know.

34 ANOTHER ANGLE

34

Sam turns from the mirror, wiping his eyes.

OBSERVER

You're in Elk Ridge, Indiana. It's nineteen....

SAM

(cutting in)

Sixty-nine. Sometime around Thanksgiving.

CONTINUED

OBSERVER

How'd you know?

SAM

Sixty-nine was my senior year and we always opened basketball season against Bentleyville the day after Thanksgiving.

OBSERVER

Which is why you're here.

SAM

Why I'm here?

(realizing)

I hadn't thought about why I'm here.

OBSERVER

You're going to love this, Sam.

(reading computer)

Your team lost that opener, right?

SAM

(painful memory)

I lost it. No Nose beat me on offense, beat me on defense and when the Ref wasn't looking just plain beat me.

(beat)

I used to lay awake at night wishing I could play that game over.

OBSERVER

(beaming)

You just got your wish, kid.

SAM

You're kidding?

OBSERVER

I don't kid about basketball.

(checks the computer)

Ziggy says that game was a turning point in the lives of a lot of people. If you could have beaten Bentleyville you would have gone on to win the State Championship.

SAM

(stunned)

Elk Ridge...State Champions?

CONTINUED



34 CONTINUED (2)

34

OBSERVER

Your coach would have accepted an offer from the University of Iowa and eventually wound up in the NBA. And two of your teammates, Moss and Longnecker, would have gotten college basketball scholarships and become doctors.

SAM

Last I heard Sibby was a teller at First Farmers and Herky was a mechanic at John Deere.

OBSERVER

Herky?

SAM

Al, this is wonderful! And all I have to do is help win the game?

OBSERVER

That's it, kid. Beat Bentleyville Friday night and you're out of here.

35 FEATURE SAM

35

The grin suddenly fades as the realization sets in.

SAM

But, I don't want out of here.

OBSERVER

(warning)

Sam....

SAM

Al, my Dad's going to die of a coronary in seventy-two. That gives me three years to prevent it.

(beat)

And Katey. She's going to elope with Chuck, an abusive alcoholic.

OBSERVER

How are you going to convince a twelve-year-old not to marry a guy she hasn't even met yet?

CONTINUED

15 CONTINUED

35

SAM

And Tom! Tom came home....

(correcting)

...Tom comes home for Thanksgiving  
before shipping out to Vietnam.

(stunned)

Oh, God, Al, I can save Tom.

OBSERVER

(softly)

I don't think so, Sam. You can't  
change what....

(looks up)

...isn't meant to be changed.

SAM

I can try!

OBSERVER

Like I did with Beth?

SAM

(vaguely)

Beth?

(remembering)

Your first wife. She thought you'd  
been killed in Vietnam and you  
wanted me to stop her from  
re-marrying.

OBSERVER

But that wasn't what you were there  
to do. And even though we both  
tried, Beth still married Dirk and I  
came home to an empty house.

(resigned)

It's what was meant to be.

SAM

This is different.

OBSERVER

The only thing different is this  
time it affects you.

SAM

Exactly.

(explaining)

I've been leaping around putting  
right whatever, God or Fate or Time  
or whoever, is leaping me around  
wants put right.

(MORE)

CONTINUED

35 CONTINUED (2)

35

SAM (Cont'd)

(beat)

Why?

OBSERVER

Because you got a lot of Boy Scout in you, Sam...and because with luck one of these leaps might be the leap home.

SAM

(smiles).

I am home.

OBSERVER

Aw, Sam, this isn't your home! I mean it may have been in sixty-nine, but it's not nineteen sixty-nine.

SAM

It is to me.

(beat)

I think I'm being rewarded, Al.

OBSERVER

I wish that were true, Sam, but Ziggy is ninety-four point three percent sure that....

SAM

(interrupting)

I don't give a damn what a hybrid computer says!

(beat)

I can save my father and brother's lives. Change my sister's for the better.

(beat)

If you were in my shoes, what would you do?

On Al's reaction we....

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

36 EXT. BECKETT FARMSTEAD - DAWN

36

The sun is breaking through the oaks with the promise of clearing the frost before noon. A proverbial cock crows atop the barn and the voice of Glen Campbell singing "Wichita Lineman" drifts from the house, as we....

CUT TO

37 INT. FARMHOUSE KITCHEN - DAWN

37

Sam has laid out the breakfast table with fresh juice, bowls of sliced fruits, bran cereal and a pitcher of skimmed milk. He's taking a pot of coffee off the stove as his dad enters, pulling his suspenders over his denim work shirt. He crosses to the pantry.

DAD

Mornin', Sam.

SAM

(turning around)

Mornin', Dad.

DAD

(searching the  
pantry)

You seen my cigarettes?

SAM

(not exactly a  
lie)

Not...lately.

DAD

(searching)

There should be a couple of packs of  
Luckies in here.

(beat)

Where's your mother?

SAM

Cleaning the silver for  
Thanksgiving.

DAD

(yells)

Thelma...where's my cigarettes?

CONTINUED

37 CONTINUED

37

MOM'S VOICE  
(from next room)  
Where they always are, in the  
pantry.

SAM  
How about some breakfast, Dad.

DAD  
(still searching)  
Just coffee. I'll get breakfast  
after the milkin'.

SAM  
(pouring coffee)  
Cows are milked. Chickens are fed.  
Hogs are slopped.

38 ANOTHER ANGLE

38

Dad comes out of the pantry looking surprised. Sam smiles  
and hands him a cup of coffee.

SAM  
I finished a half-hour ago.

DAD  
(taking the cup)  
What time did you get up?

SAM  
I don't know. Early. I couldn't  
sleep.

MOM  
(entering)  
You find your cigarettes?

DAD  
No, I didn't find my cigarettes.

MOM  
(going into the  
pantry)  
You must have smoked them all.

DAD  
Can't have. It's Wednesday. A  
carton of cigarettes lasts me till  
Friday.

Dad takes a sip of coffee and grimaces.

CONTINUED

38 CONTINUED

38

DAD

What is this?

SAM

Coffee.

DAD

Son, this could be a lot of things,  
but coffee's not one of them.

SAM

It's decaffeinated.

DAD

Decaffeinated! Old ladies drink  
decaffeinated coffee.

SAM

And people who need to lower their  
caffeine intake.

DAD

I like my caffeine intake. It gets  
my heart started in the morning.  
(looking around)  
And so do my cigarettes.

MOM

(exiting the  
pantry)

I didn't know we had any  
decaffeinated coffee.

SAM

I found a jar in the back of the  
cupboard.

MOM

Oh, Lord, that was Grandma Nettie's.  
It's been sitting there since she  
died.

DAD

Tastes like it.

MOM

I'll fix a pot.

SAM

Mom! Regular coffee's not good for  
Dad.

CONTINUED

38 CONTINUED (2)

38

DAD

Since when?

SAM

All that caffeine elevates your  
blood pressure.

MOM

(proudly)

Doesn't he sound like a doctor.

DAD

No doctor I want to have.

(sitting)

Since the milkin's done I may as  
well eat breakfast.

SAM

It's on the table, Dad.

(indicating)

Fruit, a little skimmed milk, bran  
cereal. A healthy, well-balanced  
breakfast.

DAD

For a hippie. For me breakfast is  
eggs, bacon, hash browns....

SAM

And a zillion milligrams of  
cholesterol to clog your arteries.

DAD

(pointedly  
continuing)

...and a cigarette with regular  
coffee.

SAM

Dad, you're going to have to stop  
smoking and cut out foods high in  
cholesterol and saturated fats.

KATEY'S VOICE

(inciting)

That's mostly eggs, milk and cheese,  
Dad.

## 39 FEATURE KATEY

39

Wearing a T-shirt that has a flower and says "Make Love Not War," Katey crosses to the table and pours a glass of skimmed milk. The scene becomes an overlapping conversation between the four of them.

MOM

Katherine Beckett, where did you get that shirt?

KATEY

Elaine loaned it to me.

DAD

(incredulously to Sam)

You want me to stop eating what I raise?

SAM

Well, not completely, Dad.

MOM

(to Katey)

Take it off this instant and give it right back to her.

KATEY

Aw, Mother. Lots of kids are wearing them.

MOM

Not my daughter.

(to Dad)

It's Elaine and Mary Lou's older sister, Karen. She came home from college for Thanksgiving vacation looking like a hippie.

DAD

(to Mom)

I don't believe it. Our son is anti-dairy.

SAM

I'm not anti-dairy, Dad. I'm trying to save your...I'm trying to get you healthy.

KATEY

(after drinking)

Yuuuck. Skimmed milk.

Sam glares at his little sister.

CONTINUED



39 CONTINUED

39

DAD

(to Sam)

I am healthy. Haven't had a cold in years. Not since the winter we almost lost Harriet in the drifts. And that's....

HOM

Six years ago. Take off that shirt, Katherine. Now.

KATEY

Okay. Okay. Jeez. You'd think it said something vulgar.

DAD

(continuing)

I'm healthy because I work hard, sleep good and eat dairy products.

(beat)

Did you know a person can thrive on nothing but whole milk? Not just survive...but thrive!

SAM

Dad, all I'm saying is, you've spent your entire life eating foods that are high in cholesterol and that promotes cardiovascular disease. You can reverse the damage you've done if you stop smoking, go on a low-cholesterol, low-fat diet and start exercising.

DAD

Exercising? What do you think I do all day?

HOM

You work hard. But that's anaerobic. You need to get on an aerobic exercise program to get your cardiovascular system back into shape.

HOM

(pleased)

He's going to be a doctor.

OBSERVER'S VOICE

Six times over.

40 ANGLE INCLUDING THE OBSERVER

40

as he puffs on his cigar and smiles at Sam. Sam ignores him. Mom takes the coffee pot to the sink and turns on the spigot.

DAD

Son. I'm sure you mean well, but except for the cigarettes, I live about as healthy as an American can and that's damn healthy.

SAM

Dad, you're wrong.

Everyone looks to Sam. This is the first time Sam has so openly contradicted his father.

III

After a lifetime of cigarettes and saturated fats your arteries are as clogged....

The water pipes start to bang.

SAM

...as our water pipes. And if you don't do something about it, you're going to prematurely die.

Mom quickly turns the spigot off and no one says anything for a moment. Dad stares at Sam for a beat, then rises from the table and pulls his work jacket off the peg near the back door.

III

I'm going into town for some cigarettes, you need anything, Mother?

MOM

Cranberries. Two cans.

(beat)

The whole kind.

SAM

Dad....

His father ignores Sam and walks out. After he's gone....

MOM

That was a horrible thing to say to your father.

CONTINUED

40 CONTINUED

40

SAM

I know. But maybe it'll shock him into taking care of himself, so he'll live longer than (three more years)...so he'll live longer.

MOM

What makes you think he won't?

KATEY

(softly)

Grandpa Beckett died when he was fifty-seven.

Mom turns to Katey, knowing she's right but wishing she had never said it.

MOM

You still haven't taken that shirt off and if you don't get a move on, you're going to either miss your breakfast or the bus.

KATEY

Thanksgiving vacation starts today.

MOM

Then you can help me clean the silver.

41 ANOTHER ANGLE

41

Katey rolls her eyes and exits. Mom turns to Sam.

MOM

What did you do with them?

SAM

Pardon?

MOM

Your father's cigarettes.

SAM

(after a beat)

Burned them with the trash.

MOM

(sighs)

It's just a waste of money.

CONTINUED

41 CONTINUED

41

SAM

My burning them or his smoking them?

(plea)

He's got to stop, Mom.

MOM

Your father will stop when he's good  
and ready and until then there's  
nothing you can do about it.

SAM

I can try.

MOM

You're as stubborn as your father.

SAM

(smiles)

I'm his son.

MOM

(sighs)

Maybe after Thanksgiving I could cut  
some fat out of our meals.

SAM

That'd be great, Mom.

MOM

But I don't want to hear any more  
about his father dying.

(beat)

No one knows better than daddy how  
young his father was when he passed  
on.

MOM

Yes, Ma'am.

42 FEATURE AL

42

as Mom goes back into the dining room. Sam turns to Al  
with an elated grin.

SAM

(sotto voce)

It's going to work, Al. It's going  
to work! I'm going to change their  
future!

CONTINUED

42 CONTINUED

42

OBSERVER

I hope so, Sam.

(checks computer)

In the meantime, you've got a  
basketball practice in thirty  
minutes.

SAM

I'm not going to practice.

OBSERVER

Don't you want to see your old  
buddies? Shoot some baskets with  
Sibby and Jerky, again?

SAM

Herky.

(savoring the  
idea)

It would be great.

43 ON A KITCHEN MIRROR

43

Sam's boyish reflection stares back at him in wonder.

SAM

This is all like a dream.

OBSERVER'S VOICE

Better enjoy it before you wake up.

Sam frowns at Al, but realizes he's right. Sam reaches for  
his cap and we move to....

44 SAM

44

as he is today, putting the cap on his head. He grabs his  
high-school-letter jacket from the peg.

SAM

Okay.

(warning)

But I'm not playing in that game  
Friday.

OBSERVER

Why not?

SAM

Because I don't want to leap.

CONTINUED

44 CONTINUED

44

OBSERVER

So you don't really believe you're  
here to help your family.

SAM

(defensive)

Of course I do.

45 FEATURE AL - SFX

45

He nods and punches the code into the hand computer. The  
Imaging Chamber door opens behind him.

OBSERVER

Then why are you worried about  
leaping if you win the game?

46 FEATURE SAM

46

He stares at Al as he steps into the white light and closes  
the door. Over this we hear....

CHEERLEADERS' VOICES

Stand up. Sit down. Fight, fight,  
fight!

CUT TO

47 INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM - DAY - ON THE CHEERLEADERS

47

with Mary Lou leading, as they practice. Behind them the  
Elk Ridge Cougars are holding a three-on-three basketball  
practice.

CHEERLEADERS

Cougars. Cougars. Bite, bite,  
bite!

(leaping into the  
air)

Yeeeeeeea Cougars!

48 FEATURE SIBBY

48

A tall, dark youth with a hook nose, as he dribbles  
downcourt. Before reaching the defense, he throws an  
overhead pass across court to Herky, a tow-headed farm boy,  
who puts his back to his defender, fakes to the sideline  
and then snaps a lateral bounce pass to....

49 SAM

49

as he catches the ball, a defender closes in with his arms outstretched. Sam jab-steps to his right, pivots left under the defender's outstretched arm and drives for the basket. Sibby moves in to block the other defender and Sam has an uncontested lay-up.

50 ON LISA

50

She flashes Sam a big smile as his eyes catch hers.

51 FEATURE SAM

51

He actually blushes. As Sibby runs up to him, Sam automatically holds out his hand for a low-five. Sibby looks puzzled.

SAM

Slap it, Sibby.

Sibby slaps it and Sam holds up his hand for a high-five.

SAM

Again.

Sibby slaps it and grins.

SIBBY

Yeah!

52 ON THE COACH

52

A prematurely balding man in his early thirties who's been observing this three-on-three scrimmage from the sideline.

COACH

When you girls are done playing patty-cake, I'd like your butts over here.

53 MOVING WITH SAM

53

as he trots toward the sidelines and the coach. He doesn't look at Lisa, but he's aware that she's watching him as the girls practice another cheer. As the team gathers around the coach, sweating and breathing hard from the scrimmage, he takes the basketball and studies the seven players making up the Elk Ridge Cougars.

CONTINUED

53 CONTINUED

53

COACH

You boys are pretty good....

The team smiles.

COACH

...against each other.

The smiles fade.

COACH

But you won't be playing each other  
Friday, you'll be playing  
Bentleyville and....

SIBBY/HERKY

No Nose Pruitt.

COACH

The most intimidating high school  
player I've ever seen.

(beat)

I didn't say the 'best' because he's  
not. But big and ugly he is, so,  
I've got someone bigger and uglier  
for you to scrimmage against.

(yells)

Kong!

54 ON KONG

54

A tall, lean and incredibly athletically built player as he  
trots onto the court wearing a gorilla mask.

55 ANOTHER ANGLE

55

The players look from one to another while the cheerleaders  
stop their practicing and begin to giggle. The Coach  
tosses Sam the basketball.

COACH

Kong will take Munja's place.

Kong moves into the key defensive position.

56 FEATURE SAM

56

Holding the ball, staring at the strange gorilla-masked  
player as the other boys move slowly onto the court.

CONTINUED



56 CONTINUED

56

COACH  
(blows his  
whistle)  
Let's go, girls!

Sam tosses the ball in and Sibby dribbles up court. Kong closes on Sibby who tosses a quick bounce pass back to Sam before he even reaches mid-court. Kong easily intercepts the pass and is gone with Sam on his heels.

57 ON KONG

57

as he executes a graceful slam dunk, comes down beneath the basket and calmly catches the ball as it drops from the hoop.

58 ON SAM AND KONG

58

as he stops short of Kong. The two stare at each other without a word. There is something familiar about the gorilla-masked player, but Sam's Swiss-cheesed brain can't make the connection.

59 ON THE SCENE

59

The players are stunned. The Coach sticks his face into Sibby's.

COACH  
Don't let him intimidate you! Only  
I am allowed to intimidate you!  
(blows the  
whistle)  
Let's run it again, girls!

60 CLOSE ON KONG AND SAM

60

Sam holds his hand out for the ball. Kong's eyes twinkle behind the mask as he continues to hold the ball. Finally, Sam opens his mouth to ask for the ball and Kong flips it to him before he can speak and trots away.

61 ANOTHER ANGLE

61

Turning to watch Kong, Sam discovers Al standing beside him.

CONTINUED

61 CONTINUED

61

OBSERVER

Let me guess. Herky's the one with  
the hairy face.

SAM

I know him, Al. I know him. But  
with that mask I can't remember from  
where.

(beat)

I think he might be a pro.

OBSERVER

(interested)

Looks a little like Larry Bird.

The cheerleaders begin another cheer and that catches Al's  
eye.

OBSERVER

Cheerleaders!

(beat)

And I'll bet Lisa's the one with the  
pompoms.

SAM

They don't have pom....

He catches on and throws Al a look. The Observer puffs on  
his cigar and beams back.

62 ON THE COACH

62

He blows the whistle.

COACH

Anytime before Thanksgiving,  
Beckett.

63 SERIES OF SHOTS - ON ALL

63

Sam tosses the ball to Sibby, who dribbles across mid-court  
before putting his back to the gorilla to protect the ball.  
He fakes a pass, but Kong doesn't go for it and Sibby has  
to dump off to Sam who has come across court to help out.  
Sam dribbles with his back to Kong looking for an opening.  
He finally tries a hook shot, but Kong tips it away.

64 ON KONG

64

He drives the ball downcourt and executes another beautiful slam dunk. Again, he drops beneath the basket and catches the ball as it falls from the net.

65 ON AL

65

Now standing behind the cheerleaders who are next to the Coach.

OBSERVER

(awed)

Who is that guy?

66 FEATURE SAM

66

as panting, he trots up to get the ball. Again, the gorilla-masked player's eyes sparkle with amusement.

SAM

You're good.

Kong shrugs.

SAM

I know you, don't I?

Kong nods.

SAM

You could at least give me a hint.

Kong bounces the basketball off Sam's head. Sam's eyes instantly flare with anger, then he realizes who Kong is.

SAM

Tom!

Kong pulls off the mask to reveal the handsome, grinning face of Sam's big brother.

TOM

Hello, little brother.

With a whoop, Sam literally jumps into his brother's arms.

67 ON THE CHEERLEADERS

67

Al grins at the sight of Sam's joy. Mary Lou turns to Lisa.

CONTINUED

67 CONTINUED

67

MARY LOU

(sexily)

There's the Beckett I'd like to be  
in the back of a pickup with.

Al, naturally, reacts to that.

68 CLOSE ON SAM

11

His eyes fill with tears of joy as he tightly hugs the  
brother who, to him, has been dead for 25 years.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN

69 EXT. INDIANA CORNFIELD - DAY

69

The corn stalks are dried and crackling as Sam and Tom work their way slowly across the field wearing hunting vests and carrying 12-gauge shotguns. They hunt as only a team used to hunting together can, with subtle nods of the head or gestures with the gun.

TOM

My BUD/S class started with sixty-nine candidates...thirteen of us graduated.

SAM

I remember you telling me.

TOM

When?

SAM

(catching himself)

I mean telling me SEAL training was going to be tough.

TOM

You have no idea little brother. The first six weeks were the worst, especially Hell Week. We ran through evolutions twenty-four hours a day from Sunday night till Saturday morning.

SAM

Evolutions?

TOM

Training exercises. A four-mile run on sand is an evolution. A two-mile ocean swim is an evolution.

SAM

If you did them twenty-four hours a day, when'd you sleep?

TOM

We didn't. I got a total of four hours that whole week.

(MORE)

CONTINUED

69 CONTINUED

69

TOM (Cont'd)

(beat)

Of course, they fed us hot meals every six hours. That kept you going. That and learning not to think beyond the evolution I was in.

SAM

(thinking of himself)

I know.

TOM

(smiles)

Do you, little brother?

SAM

Sort of. I have to take...things, one evolution at a time.

TOM

What evolution are you in now?

70 CLOSER ON BOTH

70

Sam stops and turns to his brother; the look on his face is quite serious.

SAM

Figuring, how to keep you from going to Nam.

TOM

(after a beat)

Don't tell me my little brother's a Dove.

SAM

Not exactly.

TOM

I'd hate to think of you as a hippie, burning your draft card and shouting 'Hell no, we won't go.'

SAM

I'd never do that.

TOM

(grins)

Although I gotta admit it's a catchy slogan.

71 MOVING WITH BOTH

71

as Tom starts hunting again. Sam moves beside him.

SAM

Vietnam's a losing war, Tom. It'll drag out for a few years, taking more of us and them down with it, but in the end we'll get out and the North will swallow the South anyway.

TOM

You saying it would be okay for me to go if we were winning?

SAM

I just believe if you're going to risk your life it should mean something.

72 FEATURE TOM

72

He stops and turns to Sam.

TOM

You don't think I'm coming back, do you?

SAM

That's always a possibility.

TOM

Yeah, I guess it is. But I didn't become a Navy SEAL to miss out on the action.

SAM

Vietnam's not a...a basketball game, it's a war!

TOM

Did you originate that philosophy or read it somewhere?

(beat)

What's happened to you, Sam? You used to be for the flag, apple pie and the Fourth of July.

SAM

I still am. I just don't want to see my brother die in a lost cause.

CONTINUED

72 CONTINUED

72

TOM

Sam, in BUD/S they pushed us to the limit and then beyond until we collapsed. They did it to teach us that we have limits.

(beat)

Maybe that's what Vietnam's doing for America...showing us our limits. That's not a lost cause.

SAM

Is that enough to die for?

TOM

If it's not, how about Duty? I took an oath, Sam...to do my duty for God and country.

SAM

I know you did, Tom, but....

TOM

(cutting him off)

Besides, I'm not going to get killed in 'Nam.

SAM

You can't say that.

TOM

Oh, but you can say I will.

(beat)

The truth little brother is that neither of us can see the future.

Tom starts to move on through the cornfield.

SAM

(softly)

I can.

TOM

Can what?

SAM

See the future.

Tom looks back to Sam with a smile.

TOM

You can, huh?



73 ON SAM

73

He's remembering them on this hunt the first time.

SAM

You're going to flush two birds.  
Hit the first and miss the second.

74 ON TOM

74

staring intently at Sam, a slight smile still on his face. After a beat, he shakes his head and turns back to hunting. As he takes his next step, two pheasants flush from the corn. Tom fires.

75 ON LEAD PHEASANT

75

It's hit and flutters to the ground.

76 ON TOM

76

He fires at the second bird. It keeps going. He fires twice more.

77 ON THE SECOND BIRD

77

It sails over the hill and into the valley.

78 ON TOM

78

He slowly lowers the gun and looks back at Sam. Over his look we hear....

DR. BERGER'S VOICE

How many times have you flushed a  
brace of birds?

CUT TO

79 INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

79

Dr. Berger is in his early forties and would epitomize the country doctor were it not for the outlandish Peter Max tie he's wearing. Seated across the desk from him is Dad, Mom and Tom.

TOM

Quite a few from that field.

CONTINUED

79 CONTINUED

79

DR. BERGER

And how many times did you miss the second bird?

TOM

(grins)

More than I'd like to admit.

Dr. Berger smiles and leans forward.

DR. BERGER

Sam is an extremely sensitive and imaginative young man under a great deal of pressure.

DAD

(surprised)

Pressure? What kind of pressure?

DR. BERGER

He's only sixteen, John, and with scholarship offers from how many colleges and universities?

DAD

About a dozen.

DR. BERGER

Has he made a choice?

DAD

He's narrowed it down to MIT or Cal Tech. Of course, he's hoping Indiana State might offer him a basketball scholarship.

TOM

I talked him out of that.

DR. BERGER

Why?

TOM

A professor at MIT told me Sam had a brain that comes along once in a generation...maybe even once in a couple of generations. I don't want to see him waste it at Indiana State.

DR. BERGER

I went to pre-med at Indiana State.

CONTINUED

79 CONTINUED (2)

79

TOM

(embarrassed)

I'm sorry, Doc, but you know what I mean. Sam's got a chance to go to one of the greatest scientific schools in the country and as good as State is, it can't offer him....

DR. BERGER

(cutting him off)

It's okay, Tom. I understand.

(smiles)

Being on the Alumni Committee, I had to protest a little.

(beat)

Sam places a lot of store in what his big brother says, doesn't he?

TOM

I don't think so.

MOM

Oh, Tommy.

(to Doc)

Since Sam could walk, he's followed Tom like a puppy.

DR. BERGER

Maybe if I had a mind like Sam's I'd create a fantasy to stop my big brother from going to Vietnam.

MOM

Then, what he told Tom...he just made it all up.

DR. BERGER

Obviously he made it up. No one travels in time.

(beat)

But, he may not have done it consciously.

DAD

You mean he's crazy?

MOM

John!

DAD

What else can you call it, Thelma?

CONTINUED

79 CONTINUED (3)

79

DR. BERGER

Wishful thinking.

(beat)

Sam's not crazy, John. He's just troubled and his mind has invented a creative way of handling it.

(beat)

It's a lot better than getting drunk or joyriding in a stolen car.

TON

What do we do, Doc?

DR. BERGER

Go along with him. At least try to accept that he may believe what he's telling you.

(beat)

After some of the pressure's off, he'll realize this traveling through time was nothing more than a wishful dream to help him cope with his fears.

On Dr. Berger's confident smile, we....

CUT TO

80 EXT. FARMHOUSE PORCH - THANKSGIVING DAY

80

Sam and Katey are on the swing, waiting for dinner to be served. Sam, in a white shirt and narrow tie and his sister in a blue taffeta dress. Sam is strumming appropriate chords on his guitar as they talk.

KATEY

Bad is good?

[MUSIC]

For a while, that was the slang.

KATEY

Far out.

SAM

No one says 'Far out' anymore, Katey. For a while it was 'Awesome' and 'Radical' and now it's....

CONTINUED

80 CONTINUED

81

KATEY

Awesome!

(beat)

Wow. That's a lot better than far out.

(trying it)

Awesome.

SAM

(realizing what  
he's done)

Oh, boy.

KATEY

What else can you tell me about the future?

SAM

Well...you're going to meet a boy in a couple of years named Chuck.

KATEY

Yuuuck. I could never go with a guy named 'Chuck.'

SAM

You're going to elope with him.

KATEY

Awesome.

She giggles.

SAM

But he's going to have a problem, Katey...a drinking problem.

KATEY

Got it. Don't go out with Chuck...when I meet him.

FBI

(after a beat)

You're just humoring me, aren't you? Like Dad and Mom and Tom. None of you really believe me.

KATEY

(sudden thought).

Oh, my God! If you really are from the future you'd know if he's dead!

CONTINUED

80 CONTINUED (2)

80

SAM

Chuck?

KATEY

Paul.

SAM

Paul?

KATEY

Paul McCartney! The white album. ?  
'Abbey Road.' If you play  
'Revolution Number Nine' backwards,  
the Beatles are singing 'Paul is  
dead!'

SAM

(smiles)

Paul's not dead. After they split  
up....

KATEY

The Beatles split up!

SAM

(trying to  
remember)

...pretty soon, I think.

KATEY

Oh, God, wait till I tell Elaine!

SAM

After they split, Paul formed a  
group called 'Wings' and turned out  
some great tunes.

KATEY

And John? What's John going to do?  
He's my favorite. He's so  
...awesome.

SAM

(sadly  
remembering)

Oh, Katey, John was....

OBSERVER'S VOICE

Don't tell her, Sam.

## 81 ANGLE INCLUDING THE OBSERVER

81

standing on the porch beside them. Sam realizes Al is right.

SAM

John is...going to write my favorite song.

KATEY

Your favorite song...in the future?

SAM

Yaah.

KATEY

(being clever)

Sing it to me.

(beat)

Or are you going to use that Swiss-cheesed-brain excuse you gave me when I asked you how tall I'd grow to be?

SAM

No. No excuses.

## 82 FEATURE SAM

82

As he begins to strum on his guitar and sing.

SAM

'Imagine there's no heaven, it's easy if you try/No hell below us. Above us only sky/Imagine all the people living for today/Imagine there's no countries, it isn't hard to do/Nothing to kill or die for...and no religion, too/Imagine all the people living life in peace/You-u may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one/I hope someday you'll join us and world will be as one.'

OBSERVER

Beautiful, Sam.

KATEY

(stunned)

I never heard that.

CONTINUED

CONTINUED

82

SAM

(smiles)

How could you. Lennon won't write  
it for another year or two.

83 FEATURE KATEY

83

She stares at Sam for a moment, then bursts into tears.

Katey....

KATEY

(wail)

No....

OBSERVER

Sam, do something!

SAM

Katey, what's wrong?

KATEY

(sobbing)

I don't want to believe you!

SAM

What?

KATEY

I don't want to believe you know the  
future 'cause if you do, Tommy's  
going to die!

84 ANOTHER ANGLE

84

Mom comes running out of the house with an apron on and her  
hands covered with flour. She takes Katey into her arms as  
the little girl grows even more hysterical.

MOM

Katey! What is it?

KATEY

(crying)

I don't want my brother to die in  
Vietnam!

Mom looks angrily to Sam, who doesn't know what to do.

CONTINUED



MOM

Hush, child. Hush. He's not going to die.

Dad and Tom come running around the side of the house.

DAD

What happened?

MOM

Sam told her Tom's going to die.

SAM

I didn't....

TOM

(disappointed)

Sam....

DAD

(angry)

I told you to keep that to yourself!

OBSERVER

Sam! Tell them you made it up!

SAM

(to Al)

I can't!

TOM

I'm not going to die, Katey. I'm not going to die.

OBSERVER

(referring to the computer)

You're not changing anything, Sam! Your dad still dies in seventy-two, your brother still gets killed in Vietnam and Katey still marries Chuck!

(beat)

You're not changing their future, you're just making their present miserable!

He's in agony. He finally has one of them believing him, but it's tearing her apart.

CONTINUED

85 CONTINUED

85

SAM

Okay! I made it up!

(softer)

I made it all up.

Katey stifles her sobs and looks up to Sam.

SAM

(to Katey)

I heard the song on the radio.

(to Tom)

I saw those pheasants in the corn.

(to Mom and Dad)

I...I made up everything I told you  
because I didn't want Tom to go to  
Vietnam.

MOM

(sadly)

Oh, Sam...

SAM

I'm sorry. I'm sorry!

He turns and runs off the porch. Tom starts after him, but  
Dad stops him.

DAD

He needs to be alone for a while.

CUT TO

86 EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - SUNSET

86

Crying from frustration and anger, Sam runs over the crest  
of the hill and toward us. As he passes, we pan with him  
to reveal....

87 THE OBSERVER

87

waiting for him at the edge of the cornfield.

OBSERVER

I know it hurts, Sam, but you did  
the right thing.

SAM

(pissed)

I always do the right thing! What  
does it get me?

(MORE)

CONTINUED

87 CONTINUED

87

SAM (Cont'd)

(beat)

Why can I save other people and not  
my own flesh and blood?

OBSERVER

I don't know, Sam.

SAM

(decisive)

I'm not doing it anymore, Al. I'm  
not doing it.

(shouts to heaven)

You hear that! Whoever you are!  
Wherever you are! I'm not doing it  
anymore! I quit!

(to Al)

I quit.

Sam breaks into a sprint and Al lunges after him.

OBSERVER

Sam!

88 WIDE ON SAM

11

as he runs down the dirt road.

89 CLOSE ON THE OBSERVER

11

as he slows to a stop and watches his friend disappear in  
the distance.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN

90 INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM - DAY

90

Sam and Tom are soaked with sweat as they play a game of one-on-one in the empty gym. Sam dribbles with his back to his brother, looking for a way to get off a shot.

TOM

I'll probably get sent to the delta.  
That's where most of the teams go.  
Maybe I'll even get my own PBR.

SAM

PBR?

TOM

River patrol boat.

SAM

Shouldn't that be RPB?

Sam fakes and tries a hook shot, but Tom leans into him forcing him away from the basket. Tom catches the rebound and dribbles out past the foul circle to come back in.

TOM

Not in Navy speak. Patrol boat,  
type river...PBR.  
(dribbling, his  
back to Sam)  
That hook won't work against No  
Nose. He's bigger than you.  
(beat)  
Try adding a jump to it.

Tom demonstrates by executing a jump hook.

91 ON THE BASKET

91

The ball swishes through the net. As it drops to the floor we find....

92 THE OBSERVER

92

watching from beneath the basket.

CONTINUED

92 CONTINUED

92

OBSERVER  
Your brother's good.

93 SAM AND TOM

93

Sam glances at Al, then catches the ball and dribbles out beyond the foul circle.

■ ■ ■  
(to Al)  
The best.

TOM  
What?

SAM  
You're the best.

TOM  
Thanks, but I'm not eligible to play, so learn to jump hook.  
(smiles)  
It will impress the hell out of Lisa.

Sam slowly dribbles in toward his brother, looking for an opening.

OBSERVER  
He's right about that, Sam. A good jump hook melts a woman's heart.  
Ask Bill Walton.

SAM  
Lisa's (only) seventeen.

TOM  
Don't knock older women, little brother.

Sam turns to protect the ball and dribbles with his back to Tom.

SAM  
She's going to marry No Nose.

TOM  
No Nose...never.

CONTINUED

93 CONTINUED

93

OBSERVER

(checking  
computer)You're right, Sam. They got married  
in a year, have two kids....

(sadly)

...and get divorced.

Sam tries to execute the jump hook but Tom is in his face  
and blocks the shot. Al winces. Tom catches the ball and  
tosses it back to Sam.

TOM

Stick your left arm in my chest when  
you jump to hold me off.

94 ANGLE ON ALL

94

Sam catches the ball and dribbles back in, turning his back  
again to his brother.

SAM

Tom...I want you to give me a day.

TOM

What?

TOM

Give me a day. One day. Say...  
April the eighth.

OBSERVER

(checking his  
computer)

Ah, Sam.

TOM

(thinks it's  
funny)

And how do I give you April the  
eighth?

SAM

By doing what I ask you to do on  
that day.

TOM

Which is?

CONTINUED

94 CONTINUED

94

SAM

To crawl into the deepest hole you  
can find and stay there for  
twenty-four hours.

TOM

(disappointed)

Sam...don't start this again.

SAM

Just do it for one day.

TOM

No.

SAM

(plea)

Humor me.

TOM

(angry)

I've been humoring you! Maybe  
that's the problem. I cut you slack  
because you're only sixteen and  
still a kid.

SAM

I'm no kid.

TOM

You're no man.

Sam pivots and leaps into the air. As Tom goes up with  
him, Sam slams his elbow into his chest and shoots.

95 ON THE BASKET

95

The ball swishes through the net.

96 ON TOM AND SAM

96

standing face-to-face. For a second it looks like Tom is  
going to slug him, but he only rubs his painfully sore  
chest.

CONTINUED

96 CONTINUED

96

TOM

(softly)

That's the general idea.

(beat)

But if you elbow No Nose like that  
you'll draw a personal foul and,  
even if you don't, he'll squish you  
like a toad.

Tom turns and walks off the floor. Sam feels terrible.

SAM

Tom....

Tom walks through the door and out.

97 ANOTHER ANGLE

97

Sam watches the door close. Al studies Sam for a moment,  
then steps up beside him.

OBSERVER

You don't give up, do you, kid.

SAM

Would you?

Sam begins shooting jump hooks from outside the foul  
circle. He doesn't miss.

OBSERVER

I guess not.

(beat)

That asking your brother for a day  
was a good idea.

HAI

(shoots)

He didn't think so.

OBSERVER

Maybe you could do that for me  
sometime.

SAM

What? Give you a day?

OBSERVER

Yeah. Give me a day when you do  
whatever I want.

CONTINUED




97 CONTINUED

97

SAM  
Any day but Friday.

OBSERVER  
I don't want Friday. I want  
tomorrow.

SAM  
Tomorrow?  
(beat)  
Tomorrow's Thanksgiving.   
(shoots)  
What can I do for you on  
Thanksgiving?

OBSERVER  
Forget you know the future.

The ball swishes through the net.

■ CLOSE ON SAM

98

He turns to Al. On his look of understanding, we hear the  
beginning of "Someday We'll Be Together" and....

DISSOLVE TO

99 INT. BECKETT BARN - DAY

99

Dad and Tom laugh at whatever Sam is saying as they work  
together to clean and hose down the stalls after milking.

100 INT. FARM KITCHEN - DAY

100

Wearing hunting vests, the three men exit the kitchen as  
Mom stuffs the turkey and Katey kneads the biscuit dough.  
Sam snitches a hunk of stuffing and Mom shoos him out.

101 EXT. BECKETT CORNFIELD - DAY

101

Sam, Dad and brother walk through the corn with shotguns at  
the ready, obviously enjoying the camaraderie of the hunt.

102 INT. BECKETT DINING ROOM - DAY 102  
Wearing their Sunday best, the family is sitting with bowed heads around the table as Dad says grace over the Thanksgiving dinner. The moment he's finished they begin an animated conversation and dive into the feast.

103 ON MOM AND TOM 103  
She heaps his plate high with potatoes until he protests.

104 ON DAD 104  
talking as he carves the huge turkey.

105 ON KATEY 105  
sneaking a sip from Tom's glass when he isn't looking.

106 ON SAM 106  
laughing and talking as he eats with his family.

107 EXT. BECKETT PORCH - SUNSET 107  
Katey sits between Sam and Tom on the swing as they watch the sunset and enjoy the moment in silence, content to be in each other's company. As we pull back from this setting, the song fades and in its place we hear the growing roar of a crowd, and....

CUT TO

108 INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM - NIGHT 108  
as the Elk Ridge Cougars race onto the basketball floor to the screams of their fans.

109 ON THE CHEERLEADERS 109  
jumping up and down on the sideline as the Cougars start their warm-up.

110 ON SAM

110

He takes a pass from the team manager, a pimply faced kid under the basket, and makes a layup. As he trots back in to rejoin the warm-up line, he glances up at the stands.

111 SAM'S POV - MOM, DAD AND TOM

111

applauding him from their seats behind the Elk Ridge bench.

112 BACK FEATURING SAM

112

He gives them a nervous grin and turns back to see Al beaming at him from the middle of the court as the team warms up.

OBSERVER

Have a good Thanksgiving?

SAM

The best, thanks to you.

Al waves off the gratitude with his cigar.

SAM

I was so worried about the future, I nearly missed the present.

OBSERVER

A lot of people do that.

(warmly)

I'm glad you're here, Sam.

SAM

Don't misread me, Al. I'm here, but I'm not here to win.

Sam shoots and misses a ten footer. Al looks from the basket to Sam.

OBSERVER

Then why?

Before Sam can answer, the crowd on the other side of the auditorium roars and they turn to see the Bentleyville Tigers racing onto the floor. They are being led by....

113 NO NOSE PRUITT

113

Six-foot-six of a lean, mean basketball playing machine. He looks straight at Sam and swishes a basketball through the hoop from twenty-five feet.

114 ON SAM AND AL

114

staring at that awesome sight, Al realizes....

OBSERVER

It's him. You're here because of him!

As Sam stares hard at No Nose, remembering the past, we....

CUT TO

115 INT. THE BASKETBALL GAME - NIGHT - SERIES OF SHOTS

115

The battle rages between the two teams with Sam and No Nose going head-to-head and doing most of the scoring. The big pug-faced player is not only aggressive, but likes to sneak in cheap shots at every opportunity.

116 FEATURE SAM

116

He takes a pass from Sibby who sets the pick, blocking No Nose. Sam makes the basket and trots downcourt giving Sibby the high-five.

117 ON THE COACH AND AL

117

standing next to each other as the Coach shouts to his team.

COACH

Defense! Defense! Not patty-cakes. Defense!

OBSERVER

(agitated)

High fives. They're called high fives. And don't just yell 'defense,' put 'em into a press!

(to himself)

I feel like Dennis Hopper in 'Hoosiers.'

118 BACK MOVING WITH SAM

118

He back-pedals past Lisa and the other screaming cheerleaders, feeling every bit the hero.

- 119 THE SCOREBOARD 119  
We're late in the fourth quarter and the Cougars trail by a point.
- 120 ON KATEY 120  
jumping up and down with her pre-teen girl friends.
- 121 ON MOM, DAD AND TOM 121  
cheering wildly for Sam and the Cougars.
- 122 MOVING WITH NO NOSE 122  
He takes the pass in and slowly dribbles downcourt with Sam coming out to meet him. The crowd is screaming.
- 123 ON THE SCOREBOARD CLOCK 123  
It ticks down with less than a minute to play and Bentleyville still ahead by one point.
- 124 BACK ON NO NOSE 124  
Ignoring the shouts of his coach and teammates to freeze the ball, No Nose goes on the offensive. Sam comes out to meet him. No Nose refuses to pass off to his teammates. Finally, he fakes and drives for the basket. Sam is with him all the way and when No Nose goes up for the shot, Sam is there to tip the ball away.
- 125 ON SIBBY 125  
as he comes down with the rebound.
- 126 ON THE COACH AND AL 126  
frantically yelling together.
- COACH/OBSERVER  
Break! Break! Break!
- 127 ON THE CROWD 127  
screaming with excitement.

- 128 ON HERKY 128  
Fast-breaking downcourt.
- 129 ON SIBBY 129  
Two players are on top of him; he manages to get a bounce pass to Sam.
- 130 ON SAM 130  
Instead of throwing the long pass to Herky, he protects the ball until the Bentleyville Tigers race past and set up their defense. Then Sam slowly dribbles downcourt.
- 131 ON MOM, DAD AND TOM 131  
on their feet with the rest of the crowd.  
DAD  
Why'd he do that?  
TOM  
He must have thought Kerky couldn't make the shot.
- 132 FEATURE SAM 132  
The crowd is hysterical as he slowly dribbles toward the Bentleyville defense. Al trots up beside him.  
OBSERVER  
You have forty-one seconds, Sam.  
SAM  
I'm not shooting, Al.  
OBSERVER  
(calm)  
Of course you're shooting.  
IAN  
Don't bet on it.
- 133 ON DAD AND MOM 133  
The crowd is screaming so loud they have to shout to be heard.

CONTINUED

133 CONTINUED

133

MOM  
Who's he talking to!

DAD  
(half deaf)  
What?

134 THEIR POV - SAM

134

dribbling slowly toward No Nose and talking to Al, who they  
can't see.

MOM'S VOICE  
(louder)  
Who's Sam talking to?

135 BACK ON BOTH

135

Dad shrugs and shouts in Mom's ear.

DAD  
Himself!

MOM  
(worried)  
He's been doing that a lot lately.

136 ON SAM AND AL

136

Al is looking up at the clock as Sam dribbles back away  
from No Nose.

OBSERVER  
Thirty-three seconds.

137 ON SIBBY

137

taking a position to pick for Sam.

SIBBY  
Shoot!  
(beat)  
Shoot!

138 ON THE COACH

138

Behind him everyone is on their feet.

CONTINUED

138 CONTINUED

138

COACH  
Shoot! Shoot!

139 ON THE CROWD

139

screaming for Sam to shoot.

140 ON THE SCOREBOARD CLOCK

140

It drops under thirty seconds.

141 FEATURE SAM

141

No Nose presses and Sam dribbles with his back to him.

OBSERVER  
Twenty-six seconds.

SAM  
(to Al)  
I'm not shooting!

NO NOSE  
Got that right!

OBSERVER  
Twenty-two seconds.

SAM  
It's not fair, Al! It's not fair!

NO NOSE  
Al?

OBSERVER  
It's damn fair.  
(beat)  
I'd give anything to have what  
you've had for three days. To talk  
to my father and sister again. To  
hold them. Tell them I loved them.  
(beat)  
It's fair, Sam. And you know it.  
That's why you're going to shoot.  
That's why you're going to win.  
(calmly)  
Twelve seconds.



142	ON THE CROWD	142
	swarming up to the edge of the court, screaming for Sam to shoot.	
143	ON SAM	143
	He looks up into the stands.	
144	CLOSE ON SAM'S DAD	144
	yelling for him to shoot.	
145	CLOSE ON TOM	145
	yelling for him to shoot.	
146	CLOSE ON SAM	146
	A tear trickles down his cheek.	
147	CLOSE ON THE CLOCK	147
	It ticks down under five seconds.	
148	ON THE SCENE - SLOW MOTION	148
	Sam pivots and goes up. No Nose goes up with him, trying to force him away from the basket. He can't. Sam uses his left arm to hold him off and shoots.	
149	ON THE CROWD - SLOW MOTION	149
	watching the flight of the ball.	
150	ON SAM'S FAMILY - SLOW MOTION	150
	holding their breath.	
151	ON THE OBSERVER - SLOW MOTION	151
	giving it body English.	

- 152 ON THE BALL - SLOW MOTION 152  
It swishes through the net without even touching the hoop.
- 153 ON THE SCOREBOARD 153  
The Cougars win by one.
- 154 ON THE CROWD 154  
exploding with ecstasy.
- 155 ON NO NOSE 155  
collapsing in agony.
- 156 ON THE BECKETTS 156  
Dad kisses Mom as Tom leaps over the seats and joins the crowd racing onto the gym floor.
- 157 ON KATEY 157  
She and her girlfriends leap and shout....
- ALL  
Awesome!
- 158 FEATURE SAM 158  
He's swept onto the shoulders of his teammates as the Coach, cheerleaders and fans envelop them.
- 159 FEATURE AL 159  
checking the computer.
- OBSERVER  
(shouting)  
I knew you'd do it, Sam! I knew it!
- SAM  
I didn't.
- SIBBY  
You did! You did!

CONTINUED

165 EXT. RIVER PATROL BOAT - DAY

165

The blue light crackles and fades to reveal Sam in a green tank top and jungle camouflage pants at the helm of the boat as it slowly churns up a muddy jungle river. He is still reaching for his brother and calling out his name.

SAM

Tom!

166 ON CHUCK

166

the bandana head-banded gunner who's been asleep behind the bow-mounted twin fifties. He jerks upright, grabs the guns and opens up on the jungle where Sam's pointing.

167 ON RICH

167

the lean, tanned blond who had been sunbathing in his shorts on the aft deck of the boat. He grabs an M-60 and begins firing in the same general direction as Chuck.

168 ON SAM

168

disoriented, he ducks and grabs the throttles, shoving them forward.

169 ON THE PBR

169

The engine roars and shoots the boat ahead as its guns send a stream of fire into the jungle.

170 ON THE THROTTLES

170

as a tanned hand overlaps Sam's and retards the throttles.

171 WIDER ANGLE

171

The sweat-soaked back of the boat captain, who's retarded the throttles, is to camera as he shouts to the crew.

CAPTAIN

Cease fire! Cease fire!

One by one the crew stops firing and the sound of the barrage is replaced by the raucous cries of a thousand terrified jungle birds.

172 ON SAM

172

as he slowly opens his eyes and looks around.

173 SAM'S POV - TOM

173

His brother is the Captain of this little patrol boat.

TOM

(angry)

What the hell is going on, Jackson?

174 CLOSE ON SAM

174

as he realizes it's his brother.

SAM

(stunned)

Tom!

On Sam's face, we....

FREEZE FRAME

END OF ACT FOUR

#66401

QUANTUM LEAP

THE LEAP HOME

\*\*\*\*\*

PLEASE NOTE:

The Cast and Set list does not reflect the following  
scenes which will be shot in the next episode:

Scenes 165 thru 174

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